

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 209

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOIL

ELECTION CODE: Provides relative to hours polls are required to be open on election day

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:134(E) and 541, relative to voting; to provide for the hours  
3 of voting; to provide for the time for opening of the polls; to provide for the hours  
4 of the principal office of the registrar on election day; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 18:134(E) and 541 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
8 follows:

9 §134. Office hours

10 \* \* \*

11 E. On election days the principal office of the registrar shall remain open  
12 from ~~6:00~~ 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. The registrar or a deputy registrar designated  
13 by him shall remain in the office during that time.

14 \* \* \*

15 §541. Opening and closing of the polls

16 In the primary and general elections, the polls shall open at ~~6:00~~ 7:00 a.m. on  
17 election day and shall close at 8:00 p.m. on election day.

18 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2013.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB No. 209

**Abstract:** Establishes new election day poll hours, with the polls to open at 7:00 a.m. instead of 6:00 a.m.; requires the principal office of the registrar to open on election day at 7:00 a.m. instead of 6:00 a.m.

Present law provides that the polls shall open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. on election day and that any voter in line to vote at 8:00 p.m. shall be allowed to vote.

Proposed law provides that the polls shall open at 7:00 a.m. instead of 6:00 a.m. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law requires the principal office of the registrar to remain open from 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on election day. Requires the registrar or a deputy registrar designated by him to remain in the office during that time.

Proposed law provides that the principal office of the registrar shall open at 7:00 a.m. instead of 6:00 a.m. Otherwise retains present law.

Effective Jan. 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 18:134(E) and 541)